

*Darrell*  
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1863-1864

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STATEMENT

OF ALL THE

15—  
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

OF THE

TOWN OF CHESTER,

FOR THE ~~YED~~ YEAR

1863-4.

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MANCHESTER, N.H.:

PRINTED BY CHARLES F. LIVINGSTON.

— Smyth's Block, —

1864.

NEW HAMPSHIRE  
STATE LIBRARY

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## Selectmen's and Town Treasurer's Reports.

The Selectmen charge themselves with the following amount  
drawn from the Treasury, \$17,039 34

And account for the same as follows :

### Improvement on Highways.

1863.

Oct. 22. Paid George W. Clark, work on bridge,	50	
James M. Kent, work on bridge,	6 63	
W. P. W. Whittemore, work on bridge,	1 50	
Wm. P. Underhill, railing and labor,	5 00	
Geo. W. Weeks, drawing stringers,	3 50	
E. R. Scott, work on bridge,	1 25	
D. Lane, work on bridge,	3 00	
Edmund Sleeper, plank and stringers,	3 56	
Edmund Sleeper, plank and work,	98	
B. Davis, work on bridge,	5 00	
George W. Dolbier, timber and labor,	25 35	
H. B. Rand, labor,	3 50	
Edwin Haselton,	1 00	
Wm. T. Green,	2 00	
Ebenezer Marden,	9 07	
		<u>71 84</u>

### Non-resident Taxes worked out.

Paid Hazen Mills,	22 38
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### Printing Town Accounts.

Paid T. J. Whittem,	20 00	
Express,	25	
		<u>20 25</u>

### Cemetery.

Paid J. R. Gordon, work on yard and hearse,	1 25	
John Underhill, care of hearse and yard,	2 10	
Melvin & Crawford, paint,	75	
		<u>4 10</u>



**Breaking Roads.**

Paid John S. Couch, March, 1862,	8 05
Wm. Weeks, March, 1863,	4 69
James Hook, "	3 74
Edwin Haselton, "	2 00
B. Wilson, "	1 50
Edmund Sleeper, "	2 95
Richard B. Morse, 1861,	1 30
Dan'l Sanborn, March, 1863,	3 60
Rufus W. Moore, "	1 80
Benja. Hills, "	1 80
B. P. Robie,	1 25
Charles Stevens,	5 90
B. P. Robie,	4 00
Moses Webster,	1 60
B. F. Gale, 1861,	5 70
Charles S. Wilcomb,	75
	<hr/>
	50 63

**Abatement of Taxes.**

Paid David Worthen, unable, 1861,	1 68
Daniel Osgood,	1 68
David Worthen, unable, 1862,	1 73
Samuel Cowdry, past age,	1 85
John W. Smith, unknown.	1 73
James Towle, for D. N. Hoyt, paid in	
Sandown,	2 40
David Bean, error,	1 78
Betsey E. Moore, error,	1 58
E. Orcutt, error,	1 54
Thos. A. McDuffee,	1 78
	<hr/>
	17 70

**Bounty to Conscripts.**

Paid William B. Stevens,	300 00
Wm. Crawford,	300 00
David D. Wilson,	300 00
Joseph W. Haselton,	300 00
Osgood True,	300 00
Clark Sanborn,	300 00
George S. Chase,	300 00
Page A. Long,	300 00
Wm. Robie,	300 00
James W. Gordon,	300 00
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	3,000 00

**Bounty to Volunteers.**

Paid Silas F. Learnard for 11 volunteers, 6,197 45

**Bounty to Returned Soldiers.**

Paid John Robinson,	48 00
Joseph W. Rowell,	48 00
James Gerah,	24 00
David J. Dearborn,	16 00
Charles E. Dearborn,	48 00
John Underhill,	48 00
Sewall W. Tenney,	44 00
S. C. McDuffee,	16 00
	<hr/>
	292 00

**Watering Trough.**

Paid Aaron Ball, 1 46

**Debts Paid.**

Paid Josiah Seavey, note and interest,	2,058 85
Abigail Currier, interest,	25 00
William T. Green, interest,	58
Exchange Bank, Portsmouth, interest,	27 67
Exeter Bank and Geo. Moore,	18 33
Moses Haselton,	1 41
	<hr/>
	2,131 84

**School Money.**

Paid District No. 1,	182 56
" 2,	105 21
" 3,	95 70
" 4,	48 77
" 5,	41 04
" 6,	49 95
" 7,	57 94
" 8,	67 12
" 9,	36 01
" 10,	34 63
" 1 in Auburn,	11 00
	<hr/>
	729 93

**School-House Tax.**

Paid William Weeks, District No. 5,	15 00
Charles Stevens, " 9, 1862,	10 00
W. F. Robie, " 3,	70 00
	<hr/>
	95 00

**State and County Tax.**

Paid State Treasurer,	828 90
County Treasurer,	541 71
	<hr/>
	1,370 61

**Lawsuits.**

Paid J. M. Kent's bill in the Rollins case,	15 95	
" " witnesses in do.	20 00	
" " Plaistow case,	18 25	
" " Hall case,	7 85	
	<hr/>	62 05

**Stationery.**

Paid James M. Kent,	3 66
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**Bounty to Soldiers' Families.**

Paid Mrs. George L. Brown, to Feb. 22,	96 00	
" C. L. Weymouth, to Feb. 28,	144 00	
" F. Spollet, to March 8,	96 00	
" John L. Blaisdell, to March 1,	48 00	
" S. S. Gale, to Feb. 18,	98 00	
" W. L. Gale, to Feb. 24,	48 00	
" J. M. M. Elliot, to March 6,	144 00	
" P. R. Smith, to Feb. 6,	144 00	
" F. S. Olay, to Jan. 30,	96 00	
" B. F. Morse, to March 1,	114 00	
" Andrew S. Nichols, to March 1,	144 00	
" Samuel C. McDuffee, to Jan. 1,	148 00	
" Henry D. Davis, to March 1,	144 00	
" Edward T. Robie, to March 2,	48 00	
" Samuel V. Osgood, to Aug. 15,	72 00	
" David C. French, "	72 00	
" Emerson S. Childs, "	48 00	
" John A. Haselton, "	72 00	
" John West, 2d, "	30 00	
" Luther C. Stevens, "	72 00	
" Mathew Forsaith, "	72 00	
" Josiah D. Morse, to March 1,	144 00	
" Daniel Clay,	32 00	
" John Currier,	31 00	
" Hannah C. Currier,	28 00	
" Jacob Mead,	6 00	
" M. Forsaith, overlooked last year,	48 00	
" Joseph W. Haselton, to Feb. 11,	60 00	
	<hr/>	2,299 00

**School Tax on Town Farm.**

Paid H. Mills,	15 18
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**Pauper Expenses.**

Paid James Hook. (See his report.)	145 48	
Off the Farm,	55 43	
	<hr/>	200 91

**Cemetery in North Part of Town.**

Paid Osgood True, vote of town, 1862,	50 00
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**Superintending School Committee.**

Paid Luther Fitz,	25 00
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**Collector's Services.**

Paid Hazen Mills,	68 51
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**Town Clerk's Services.**

Paid Wm. F. Robie,	10 00
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**Town Treasurer's Services.**

Paid Thomas J. Melvin,	25 00
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**Selectmen's Services.**

Paid James M. Kent,	41 50	
William T. Green,	14 50	
Ebenezer Marden,	22 50	
		<hr/> 78 50

**Selectmen's Expenses.**

Paid James M. Kent,	6 70	
Ebenezer Marden,	3 50	
William T. Green,	7 00	
D. L. Batchelder's bill,	10 00	
		<hr/> 27 20

**Auditors' Services.**

Paid Edwin Haselton,	1 00	
Wm. Crawford,	1 00	
Wm. P. Underhill,	1 00	
		<hr/> <hr/> 3 00



# Receipts and Expenditures

OF

## THE OVERSEER OF THE POOR OF CHESTER,

For the Year ending February, 1864.

### TOWN FARM.

#### Receipts.

By cash received of county,	361 51
" " for produce and labor,	41 54
" " for yoke oxen,	100 00
" " " "	110 00
" " for breaking roads,	3 74
" " from town treasury,	145 48
	<u>762 27</u>

#### Expenditures.

1863. Paid Melvin &amp; Crawford's bill—

Jan. 18.	½ gll. kerosene,	40
25.	1 bbl. flour,	8 50
27.	28 glls. molasses,	12 32
Mar. 13.	1 lb. tea,	1 00
23.	1 tub .92, 125 crackers .50, 2 lbs. sul- phur .24,	1 99
	1 lb. ginger .30, 2 lbs. soda .16, 7¼ lbs. sugar \$1,	1 46
	¼ lb. cr. tartar .12, 1 quire paper .18,	30
Apr. 14.	2 papers seed,	8
16.	1 bbl. flour,	8 75
May 12.	2 yds. print .36, 2 mugs .20, 2 tumblers .18,	74
13.	3 pks. grass seed 2.25, 1 bu. red top .85,	3 10
	16 lbs. clover seed,	1 92
18.	10½ yds. print 1.89, 2 spools thread .16,	2 05
	Buttons .04, cord .03,	7
29.	1 bu. salt,	75
June 5.	1 bbl. flour,	8 25
	1 pr. shears .28, 1 cake scap .08, 2 qts. kerosene .30,	63



	8.	2 lbs. soda,	16
	13.	2 hoes,	1 20
	18.	7½ lbs. sugar,	1 00
	29.	Balance on hat,	50
July	2.	1 bu. salt,	75
	3.	2 scythes 1.70, 2 rifles .15,	1 85
	6.	2 hanks thread,	12
	9.	1 pr. rubbers .40, 2 bu. salt 1.50,	1 90
	10.	1 bar soap,	8
	17.	1 bag salt .32, bal. on plates .07,	39
		1 bbl. flour,	8 00
	23.	2 lbs. soda,	16
Aug.	11.	1 scythe,	75
	24.	2 bbls. flour,	15 50
Sept.	10.	1 box salt .32, 9 lb. 11 oz. sugar \$1,	2 32
		2 lbs. soda .16, 4 bars soap .36, thread .05,	57
	11.	1 bed cord,	58
	19,	9¼ yds. sheeting 3.29, 2 yds. pant. cloth .70, 3	99
		2 qts. kerosene .40, 19¼ lbs. leather 7.22,	7 62
			<hr/>
1863. Paid William Greenough's bill—			
Oct.	5.	1 sk. tidy cotton,	10
	8.	1 chamber,	35
	14.	1½ yds. serge .50, ½ yd. canvas .13,	
		15 buttons 18,	81
		1 stk. twist .06, 2 sks. silk .10, sewing	
		cotton .16,	32
	16.	28 glls. molasses 14.56, 30 lbs. nails 1.80,	
		1 lb. tea \$1, salt .75,	18 11
	20.	32½ yds. sheeting \$13, 1 yd. gingham	
		.25, 1 handkf. .20,	13 45
		3 pr. buck mittens,	3 00
	27.	½ gll. kerosene,	40
Nov.	7.	6¾ lbs. sugar \$1, 2 balls wicking .30,	
		1 chamber .35,	1 65
		1 lb. castile soap .17, 70 crackers .35,	52
	12.	½ lb. pepper,	18
	23.	2 lbs. raisins,	44
	25.	1 bu. salt .75, 1 pr. suspenders,	1 73
	27.	1 bag fine salt,	30
	30.	1 pr. lady's boots 1.50, ½ gll. kerosene	
		.35, 1 chamber .35,	2 20
Dec.	1.	5 lbs. nails,	30
	2.	1 bbl. flour,	8 00
	3.	3 lbs. wrought nails,	36
	15.	1 bu. salt .75, 1 lb. soda .08, ¼ lb. salt-	
		petre .05,	88

98 75

16.	10 lbs. nails, .60 ; 5 yds. crash, .83,	1 43	
22.	Remnant check .40, 2 hdkfs. .63, $\frac{7}{8}$ yd. gingham .22,	1 25	
24.	70 crackers,	35	
28.	$\frac{1}{2}$ gll. kerosene.	35	
30.	1 broom .33, 2 spools .16.	49	
1864.			
Jan. 1.	4 yds. blue-mixed flannel,	2 40	
9.	1 yd. sheeting,	40	
12.	7 lbs. sugar,	1 12	
18.	$\frac{1}{2}$ gll. kerosene,	35	
21.	20 sks. thread 20, 1 doz. buttons .03,	23	
22.	33 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. fish,	1 00	
	1 bbl. flour,	8 50	
			70 37
	Paid J. R. Gordon's bill, blacksmith work,		11 17
	Edmund Adams, lumber,		15 02
	Lewis Kimball, yoke oxen,		70 00
	Hosea B. Bartlett, cow,		23 00
	Seth D. Lane, 5 bu. rye,		5 00
	Melvin & Crawford, bbl. tongues and sounds,		8 45
	Abraham Hook, sundries,		6 50
	C. C. Parker, 50 lbs. codfish,		2 00
	H. M. Bailey & Son, stove and funnel,		4 69
	J. N. Haseltine, grinding,		3 14
	Geo. M. West, bal. on rye and lime.		6 52
	E. A. Higley, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ yds. cloth,		15 51
	H. Moore, 23 ft. upper leather,		5 75
	H. & H. R. Pattee, 2 bu. rye meal,		2 20
	Eastman Bros., fish and rice,		1 52
	C. C. Parker, shoes and fish,		4 20
	Division No. 373, pork, tea and pepper,		2 20
	Jona. Sanborn, yoke oxen,		90 00
	C. B. Hall, bill,		4 57
	School-house tax,		2 07
	D. Currier, blacksmith work,		7 78
	Dr. J. P. Whittemore, doctor's bill,		13 24
	Paid James Hook's bill—		
	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ bu. potatoes 2.50, $\frac{1}{2}$ bu. beans 1.50,	4 00	
	31 $\frac{1}{2}$ bu. corn 39.37, 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. rolls 4.25,		
	2 sheep \$16,	59 62	
			63 62
	Superintendent Town Farm.		
	Paid James Hook's salary,	225 00	
			762 27

### Stock and Provisions at the Almshouse.

2½ bbls. pork \$60, 100 lbs. ham \$12, 1½ bbls. beef \$20,	92 00
2 bbls. apples \$4, 4 bbls. cider \$12, 1 bbl. vinegar \$5,	21 00
150 bu. potatoes \$75, 30 bu. turnips \$5, 50 lbs. butter 12.50,	92 50
60 lbs. lard 8.40, 40 lbs. cheese \$5, 17 bu. oats 13.60,	27 00
5 bu. barley \$7, 1 bu. pease 1.50, 2 bu. beans 3,	11 50
54 bu. corn \$80, 4 oxen \$210, 5 cows \$140,	430 00
1 calf \$10, 2 sheep \$16, 8 tuns hay \$128,	154 00
7 tuns run hay,	54 00
1 horse \$70, butts and straw \$5, 3 shoats \$25,	100 00
20 lbs. dried apples 1.60, 2 bu. rye \$3,	4 60
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	986 60
Improvements on buildings,	50 00
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	1,036 60
Value of provision and stock last year,	758 50
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	278 10
Drawn from the treasury,	145 48
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	\$132 62
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The farm has been self sustaining the past year, with a balance in favor of the farm of one hundred and thirty-two dollars and sixty-two cents.

The following is a list of the names and ages of the inmates of the Almshouse :

Nelson Hills,	45 years.
John Dunlap,	73 "
Philip Shea,	73 "
Philip Flanders,	63 "
John Flanders,	5 "
Frank Flanders,	3 "
George Wason,	43 "
David Worthen,	66 "
Abigail Lane,	57 "
Ann Simonds,	51 "
Sarah A. Potter,	46 "
Hannah Morse,	37 "
Martha Simonds,	84 "
Nancy Currier,	85 "
Sarah P. Haddock,	75 "

Average number last year, 15.      Present number, 15.



## Receipts and Expenditures

FOR

### THE SUPPORT OF POOR OFF THE FARM.

#### Receipts.

By cash from town treasury,	55 43
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#### Expenditures.

<b>Paid</b> Melvin & Crawford, for supplies for Jos. Rand,	11 82
J. P. Whittemore, vis. and med.	6 69
D. Currier, boarding Persis Hall child,	16 92
City of Manchester, boarding Wason, 1861,	20 00
	<u>55 43</u>

JAMES HOOK, *Overseer of the Poor.*

## STATEMENT.

The Town is indebted as follows—

<b>To</b> Jacob Chase's estate,	187 39
L. C. True,	212 00
Lucy A. Green,	212 00
J. B. Cheswell,	371 00
L. C. True,	212 00
John Ordway,	1,060 00
John Locke,	1,484 00
Milton S. Brown,	132 50
Marston W. Brown,	132 50
Wm. Crawford,	1,060 00
Abigail Currier,	1,850 00
Jacob Green,	500 00

Miss Brown,	300 00	
Isaac L. Seavey,	1,600 00	
Jane R. Brown,	500 00	
Osgood True,	100 00	
William T. Green,	300 85	
C. N. Fitz,	100 00	
Wm. Moore,	750 00	
Edmund Sleeper,	200 90	
Daniel Sanborn,	300 00	
John Lane,	100 00	
Benja. Davis,	250 00	
Lewis Kimball,	100 00	
Parker Morse,	100 00	
Nancy Aiken,	700 00	
George Moore,	1,200 00	
George Cammet,	100 00	
True G. Sanborn,	100 00	
John Little,	1,550 00	
James M. Kent,	500 00	
Selwin D. Parker,	500 00	
Moses Haselton,	60 00	
T. J. Melvin, treasurer,	43 94	
	<hr/>	16,868 18
The following sums are due the Town—		
Note, J. D. Bell,	27 00	
From the State,	1,950 00	
From the United States,	3,322 00	
In hands of Collector,	807 93	
	<hr/>	6,106 93
Balance against the Town,		<hr/> <u>10,761 25</u>

Chester, Feb. 20, 1864. We have this day examined the foregoing account of the Selectmen, Town Treasurer, and Overseer of the Poor, and find the same correctly cast, with proper vouchers for the several charges.

EDWIN HASELTON,	} <i>Auditors.</i>
WM. P. UNDERHILL,	
WM. CRAWFORD,	

Dr. **The Town of Chester in account with Thomas J. Melvin, Treasurer.** Cr.

Cash paid for improvements on highways, .....	71 84	By balance due on Collector's list for 1862, .....	681 09
" non-resident taxes worked out, ....	22 38	" literary fund, .....	94 23
" breaking roads, .....	50 63	" from the State, .....	2,595 54
" printing Town accounts, .....	20 25	" railroad tax, .....	47 78
" cemetery, .....	4 10	" Jacob Green, .....	500 00
" abatement of taxes, .....	17 70	" Miss Brown, .....	300 00
" bounty to conscripts, .....	3,000 00	" Isaac L. Seavey, .....	1,600 00
" returned soldiers, .....	292 00	" Jane R. Brown, .....	500 00
" volunteers, .....	6,197 45	" Osgood True, .....	100 00
" debts paid, .....	2,134 84	" Wm. T. Green, .....	300 85
" school money, .....	729 93	" C. N. Fitz, .....	100 00
" school-house tax, .....	95 00	" Wm. Moore, .....	750 00
" State and County tax, .....	1,370 61	" Edmund Sleeper, .....	200 00
" lawsuits, .....	62 05	" Daniel Sanborn, .....	300 00
" watering trough, .....	1 46	" John Lane, .....	100 00
" soldiers' families, .....	2,239 00	" Benja. Davis, .....	250 00
" cemetery in north part of town, ....	50 00	" Lewis Kimball, .....	100 00
" school tax on Town farm, .....	15 18	" Parker Morse, .....	100 00
" Superintending School Committee, ..	25 00	" Nancy Aiken, .....	700 00
" Collector's services, .....	68 51	" George Moore, .....	1,200 00
" Town Clerk, .....	10 00	" George Cammet, .....	100 00
" stationery, .....	3 66	" True G. Sanborn, .....	100 00
" Town Treasurer, .....	25 00	" State of New Hampshire, .....	1,190 00
" Selectmen, .....	78 50	" John Little, .....	1,550 00
" expenses, .....	27 20	" James M. Kent, .....	500 00
" Auditors, .....	3 00	" Selwin D. Parker, .....	500 00
" James Hook, Overseer of Poor, ....	145 48	" H. Mills, Collector, .....	2,618 91
" off Town farm, .....	55 43	" use of Town Hall, .....	7 00
" balance due Treasurer, 1863, .....	163 14	" balance due T. J. Melvin, Treasurer, ..	43 94
	<b>\$17,039 34</b>		<b>\$17,039 34</b>



## SCHOOL REPORT.

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### TO THE CITIZENS OF CHESTER :

I respectfully submit to you the following report of our public schools. Taken collectively our schools have made progress during the past year. Some schools have made greater improvement than others, but no school on the whole has been a failure. The success of a school depends on three things : first, the ability of the teacher to instruct and govern ; second, on the condition of the school at the commencement of the term ; third, on the amount of sympathy and encouragement received from the people of the district. Where these three things are favorable, there cannot be an unprofitable school. When any one of these three are wanting, the efficiency of instruction must be impaired ; and when *all* are wanting, the school must be a failure. It is due to the teachers of the past year to say, that in every instance they have manifested a desire for the improvement of those under their charge, and have been ready to listen to any suggestions or adopt any methods which appeared to be for the interest of their school. I would also say, that I am pleased with the promptness with which all have returned their registers to me, and the correctness with which they are filled out. Several young ladies have been employed the past year who taught their first school. No doubt that in some instances they were employed because they could be obtained at a less price, and thereby have a longer school. Shall we expect the same improvement at their hands that we do of experienced teachers who have twice or thrice their compensation ? This would be ungenerous ; if a man gets the worth of his money paid out, he should never complain. Age is not a sure criterion of the qualifications of a teacher. There are young ladies of sixteen years who can keep a good school, but this is an exception rather than a rule. In one of the large cities in Massachusetts the board of superintending school committee have passed a resolve not to employ any young lady to teach who is less than eighteen years of age.

Many faults have been corrected the past year, which a year ago demanded particular attention. The study of grammar, which had been neglected, has been better attended to, and the number increased about thirty-three per cent. There has been more attention paid to penmanship the past year, and the number of scholars who have attended to this branch has been increased about seventy per cent. There has also been an increased interest taken in Colburn's intellectual arithmetic, one of the most important studies in our schools.

The necessity of some change in our school books seemed apparent. It was thought best to make that change gradual rather than at once. The necessity of introducing a speller seemed imperative, and the increased interest taken by both teacher and pupil has been gratifying. It was thought best to introduce Town & Holbrook's series of progressive readers, as they appeared to be better adapted to the taste and capacity of youth than Sargent's, which have been used here for several years. A majority of the schools have used these readers the past year, and it is evident that the change was not made too soon, as both teacher and scholar appear to take more interest in this important exercise. Should a grammar now be introduced in every school in town, there would be a uniformity of text-books throughout the town, which is very desirable. The committee is aware of the strong prejudice existing against any change of books, as it is generally thought that *all* changes are made to favor some publisher or personal friend, rather than for the benefit of the scholar. But there is no more reason in using the same book ten or twenty years than there is in wearing the same style of coat, hat or bonnet for the same length of time, or riding in the same carriage, or hearing the same sermon preached sabbath after sabbath. Our natures demand variety, and are disgusted with sameness; old things *must* and *will* pass away. We should expect the education of our children to cost something, and having made up our minds to this effect we shall buy books for our children cheerfully instead of grudgingly. It is a small outlay for so great a benefit.

Amount of money appropriated by the town was	\$618 49
Literary fund,	111 47
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	\$729 96

The above amount was appropriated to each district as follows :

District No.	1,	\$182 56
"	2,	105 21
"	3,	95 70
"	4,	48 77
"	5,	41 04
"	6,	49 95
"	7,	57 97
"	8,	67 12
"	9,	36 01
"	10,	34 63
"	1, in Auburn,	11 00

#### District No. 1. James R. Jordan, Prudential Committee.

*Summer and Fall Term*—LYDIA A. BROCK, Teacher.

At the commencement of this school, it was evident that it would require a vast amount of effort to obtain that degree of discipline which was desirable. Patience, perseverance, energy, industry were all necessary to produce the desired result, and happily for Miss B. she had these qualifications at her command. The classes generally appeared well. In reading and spelling there was decided improvement; distinctness of pronunciation was carefully taught, and a due observance of inflections and pauses. The writing-books were very neatly kept, and exhibited fair improvement. The order of the school was greatly improved, if not in all respects as good as we might desire. There was evidently a great effort on the part of the scholars to suppress the bad habit of whispering, twenty-one names having been handed in to me of those who had not whispered during the term. At the closing examination of the Fall term the order was very good, the scholars attentive and respectful, and recited correctly.

*Winter Term*—CHARLES H. WILSON, Teacher.

The scholars of this school have made a great effort to correct the fault most prominent one year ago, viz: Irregularity of attendance. The average attendance of this school for the Winter term is the highest in town, except in district No. 7, which is but a fraction higher. This also speaks well for the



teacher, for scholars will not attend school unless they are interested. The instruction this term has been thorough and well adapted to the wants and capacities of the scholars. He began with the first principles in every study, and advanced only so fast and so far as his pupils understood what was taught. The classes in reading made good advancement, also in written arithmetic. The writing-books were not so neatly kept, neither was there the improvement in writing which we hoped to see. Mr. W. tried hard to obtain good order in his mild, persuasive, and confidential manner, but whispering and idleness had too strong claims to be conquered and subdued in a short term of eight weeks.

**District No. 2. Jesse G. Hall, Prudential Committee.**

*Summer and Fall Term*—H. M. HAZELTON, Teacher.

The closing examination of the Summer term was very satisfactory. It was evident that the teacher had labored faithfully and with success. The recitations, with scarcely an exception, were creditable to both teacher and scholar. There was a very good class in analysis and parsing, also one in Colburn's Intellectual, which recited the most difficult problems with ease. The outline maps, which were new to this school, and recently obtained by the efforts of Miss H. and the generosity of individuals in the district, added very much to the interest in geography. No school in town should be without them. Penmanship was well attended to, and some very good specimens of book-keeping were presented for inspection. I should do injustice to this school if I omit to speak in commendation of the exercises in spelling and defining, which were not inferior to any in town.

The Winter term closed abruptly on account of sickness. Not having seasonable notice I could not attend. When visited the first part of the term it was evident that there would be a different result at the close of this term. Sickness had kept many away from school and broken up the classes, and both teacher and scholar seemed wanting in that kind of energy and zeal which is necessary to make progress.

**District No. 3. W. F. Robie, Prudential Committee.**

JENNIE D. GRIFFIN, Teacher.

Fifty scholars uncomfortably seated in a school-room which

has nothing inside or outside attractive, will task the energies of any teacher to discipline and instruct. Such was the prospect Miss G. had before her in District No. 3. A good house and pleasant surroundings go forth to lighten the burdens of a teacher. Miss G. endeavored to do her duty and many classes appeared well at examination. The writing-books were neatly kept and there was evidence of having paid attention to this neglected branch. The order was not in all respects what it should be, and it is useless to expect good order until the habit of whispering shall be entirely suppressed, and our children learn to be industrious.

*Winter Term*—GEORGE A. EASTMAN, Teacher.

There was a considerable prejudice existing against Mr. E. at the commencement of the term. Some parents and scholars were determined *not* to be pleased, however well the teacher might do. Mr. Eastman commenced with the determination to have good order and good lessons. Those who sent their scholars the whole term were well satisfied with the instruction and the order. Those who took their children out of school, did it manifestly to their own injury, and for the benefit of those who remained. The practice of taking children out of school for every offence, real or imaginary, is very bad, for very few can afford to lose the small amount of schooling we have in our public schools. A cause sufficient to withdraw a scholar from school is a sufficient cause to report the teacher to the Superintending Committee and demand an investigation. There is no district in town where more are in favor of good order than No. 3, and it is believed that every man holds to necessary punishment; but it is further believed that very few, if any, believe that their *own dear children* ever deserve it. Therefore, punishment is all right for every man's neighbor's children. Mr. E. was faithful, energetic, industrious and persevering; thorough in his instructions, but wanting somewhat in patience and sympathy for his pupils; a little more of the "rounding of the corners" in school and out of school, would greatly improve his character as a teacher.

District No. 4. Wm. T. Green, Prudential Committee.

*Summer and Fall Term*—CLARA M. LEARNARD, Teacher.

Miss L. commenced with a determination to do her best.

She was earnest and anxious that her scholars should improve. It was evident that fair progress had been made in all the branches taught. The small scholars appeared to have made good progress in reading and spelling. A small class in intellectual arithmetic appeared to be thoroughly instructed. Writing was not neglected. Miss L. has the essential requisites for a good teacher.

**District No. 5. Anderson Holman, Prudential Committee.**

*Fall Term*—FLORILLA A. LANE, Teacher.

On my first visit to this school I saw that a new order of government had been instituted. I anticipated a good school and was not disappointed at the closing examination. The answers were given very readily and correctly. The school was respectful, orderly and quiet. Not a whisper was seen at either visit by the committee. The district will be fortunate if they can obtain the services of Miss L. another season.

**District No. 6. Henry Mills, Prudential Committee.**

*Summer and Fall Term*—NELLIE SANDERSON, Teacher.

The committee of this district, believing it to be for the interest of the district to pay a smaller compensation and thereby have a longer school, engaged a young but energetic teacher. Miss L. endeavored to do her duty, but was wanting somewhat in self-command and maturity of judgment, which are indispensable to success. It was evident that improvement had been made in the different studies, but not to so great an extent as desirable.

**District No. 7. Amos Hazelton, Prudential Committee.**

*Summer and Fall Terms*—M. ADA HAZELTON, Teacher.

The committee of this district believed it was better to have a good school if but a short one. The result was satisfactory. The recitations were generally good, particularly in arithmetic. There was a very good class in Colburn's, and the exercises on the black-board in written arithmetic, by the advanced scholars, were very satisfactory. Were I to designate my study in this school which needs more particular attention, it would be grammar. The writing-books were free from blots and



indicated fair improvement. The school-room should be the most pleasant place where children can go. That teacher who can make children love to go to school, and who teaches them thoroughly and efficiently, who gives good moral instruction, who can break the monotony of the school-room with sweet music, who resorts to punishment only as a last resort, and has such occasions few and far between, and secures the affection and good-will of every scholar, is the kind of a teacher we want in every district. Miss H's. school seems like a happy family—a miniature republic, where all its subjects are loyal.

#### **District No. 8. George Hook, Prudential Committee.**

*Summer Term*—ROSETTA WASON, Teacher.

On account of sickness I was not present at the closing examination of Miss Wason's school. My impression at the commencement of the term was very favorable; and had I been so fortunate as to be present at the closing examination, I have no doubt I should have been able to give a very favorable report of the school.

*Winter Term*—WILSON S. ABBOTT, Teacher.

The people of this district have shown their appreciation of an education by raising a very liberal sum to lengthen out the public school. I received no notice of the close of the public school, but a previous acquaintance with Mr. Abbott and his position as Ex-Commissioner of the County, is a guarantee of a good school. If such liberality on the part of the citizens of each district could be shown, and such a teacher's services be secured, we should soon place the schools of Chester on a good foundation.

#### **District No. 9. Eben Sanborn, Prudential Committee.**

*Winter Term*—SUSAN M. SANBORN, Teacher.

At the commencement of the term, this school appeared well, and I saw no reason why there would not be a profitable school. There were but three scholars at the closing examination. It was impossible for me to judge of the proficiency of the absent scholars. The writing-books plainly showed the want of care and attention, both in setting the copies and writing.

### District No. 10. Isaac Seavey, Prudential Committee.

*Winter Term*—M. NELLIE MARDEN, Teacher.

The closing examination of this school was more interesting on account of the large number of friends and parents present. A full attendance at the examinations, and frequent visits at other times of friends and parents, add greatly to the interest of the school, and by their frequency, tend to relieve the scholars from embarrassment. The exercises were generally good and gave evidence that both teacher and scholars had been industrious. The improvement in reading and spelling was very evident. The writing-books were neatly kept and showed fair improvement. The names of seven scholars were reported as not having whispered during the term.

### General Remarks.

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEES.—This office is of more importance than is generally supposed. No man should be elected to it who does not take an interest in the prosperity of the school, or considers the faithful performance of his duties burdensome. No man should be chosen who would hire a teacher on account of personal friendship or relationship, or because he wishes to *board* or keep the money in the family. He should make himself acquainted with the acquirements and character of the person he selects. He should be willing to consult the superintending committee and other citizens in relation to the fitness of the candidate before engaging. Having secured a teacher he should visit the school and see for himself the condition of the school, and not depend on outside reports.

TEACHERS.—It appears to be a prevailing impression that as soon as any young person has sufficient book knowledge, that he or she is qualified to teach. But this is but *one* acquisition, while many qualifications are necessary to constitute a good teacher. The ability to impart instruction to others understandingly, and the faculty of interesting, are of the utmost importance. In Prussia, the teacher who fails to interest his pupils and engage their attention, is thought to have mistaken his calling. Each town should educate their own teachers. As there is no Normal school in New Hampshire, is it not the duty of every principal of our academies to select



those who have a desire to teach, and instruct them expressly with this object in view. If this should be done, it would be reasonable for us to require more of them; we could raise our standard of education, and reasonably expect our teachers to come up to it. They should be more independent of text-books. They should be not only able to teach the book, but the subject. Every teacher should not only teach, but make impressions, and by his own zeal inspire his scholars with a love of study and a desire to excel.

ORDER.—That order which is based on the personal regard for the teacher, must be very unstable. To-day, if the scholar is pleased he obeys, if displeased on the morrow, he disobeys. He is like a citizen who refused to obey the laws of the land because he has a *personal dislike* to the Governor or the President. Some schools appear as though it was thought that a teacher should be a martyr to the whims and fancies of the scholars, and when all the moral qualities at his command have been cast at their feet, that they should be allowed to turn and rend him. In such cases it is well for scholars to know that “there is a point where forbearance ceases to be a virtue,” and that duty and right must and will demand obedience. The theory extensively advocated a few years ago, that moral suasion was the *only* true method of governing a school, has not improved the discipline of our schools; its tendency is to anarchy and confusion. It is the duty of every citizen who has an interest in law and order, to see that the discipline of our schools is more thorough and efficient.

Fellow-citizens, the record of the progress of our public schools during the past year is before you. We hope it will appear that we have made some progress in the right direction, for the success of our schools involves the social, political, and moral destinies of our community, and, in no small degree, of our country.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

LUTHER FITZ, *S. S. Committee.*



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## Statistical Table.

	District No.	Whole number of scholars.	No. of scholars between 4 and 16.	No. of scholars over 16.	Average attendance.	Cases of tardiness.	Cases of dismissal.	No. not absent one half day.	Number of weeks.	Wages per month, including board.		
FIRST TERM.												
Lydia A. Brock, .....	1	52	52		41	30		8	.9	\$20 00		
H. M. Hazelton, .....	2	38	30	.8	34	190	33	10	.9	22 00		
Jennie D. Griffin, .....	3	50	50		41	3-5	32	12	.3	10	20 00	
Clara M. Learnard, .....	4	12	12		.7	3-4	.5	1	.3	.8	12 00	
Florilla A. Lane, .....	5	20	19	.1	15	29	13	1	10	14	00	
Nellie Sanderson, .....	6	30	29	.1	23	28	9	5	.8	12	00	
M. Ada Hazelton, .....	7	40	34	.5	37	1-5	15	2	17	.6	18 00	
Rosetta Wason, .....	8	24	24	.3	20	3-4	32	3	.6	.8	13 00	
Susan M. Sanborn, .....	9	9	6	.2	.6	31	14		11	13	00	
Nellie M. Marden, .....	10	21	20	.1	18	20	20	.2	14	11	00	
SECOND TERM.												
Lydia A. Brock, .....	1	53	53		37	19	5	.2	11	20	00	
H. M. Hazelton, .....	2	26	23	.3	20	1-2	68	29	.1	.6	22 00	
George A. Eastman, .....	3	49	44	.5	38	89	12	.4	.6	1-5	33 00	
Clara M. Learnard, .....	4	12	12		.9	3-5	.3	.7	.8	12	00	
Nellie Sanderson, .....	6	21	21		17	.4	.4	.1	.8	12	00	
M. Ada Hazelton, .....	7	33	30	.3	31	1-2	13	.5	14	.6	1-2	18 00
W. S. Abbott, .....	8	12	15	.7	10	1-2	10	.2	.1	.5	32	00
THIRD TERM.												
Charles H. Wilson, .....	1	68	61	.7	60	136	87		.8	40	00	